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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

Rumania

SUBJECT

Port Facilities/Economic Conditions in Braila

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4.

[redacted] Braila prior to World War II [redacted] was a beautiful semi-resort town, but now it is in very poor condition. The town's people are wretched, while the Soviet personnel are well dressed. All consumer items are rationed, and [redacted] little freedom of any kind for the people.

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5. Braila had been very active and prosperous before World War II and handled grain, timber, and coal; [redacted] it was not very active [redacted]. The bulk of 50X1-HUM the cargo handled through the port appeared to be oil [redacted] saw six oil barges of approximately 1,000 tons each coming down the Danube bound for Odessa. [redacted] observed Rumanian and Bulgarian merchant ships and one new Soviet ship of approximately 6,000 tons that was discharging coal.

[redacted] the Braila Dock is dredged to 21 feet, but it is actually dredged to 22 feet [redacted] saw gantry cranes on the south side of Braila Dock and also a new warehouse on this same side. [redacted] also observed four transporters (Soviet type), similar to some [redacted] seen in the Soviet Union before World War II, located at Braila Dock, [redacted] could not determine their exact position.

6.

7. [redacted] no military installation in Braila, but there is an officers' candidate school for Rumanians in the town. The Rumanian navy had a number of small river patrol boats with six-man crews continually patrolling the river. At Gulesti, [redacted] ships being worked in the stream and a repair yard which appeared to be handling only small craft. Also [redacted] several steel river craft of approximately 175 to 200 feet in length that appeared to be under construction. 50X1-HUM At Sulina [redacted] observed a Soviet salvage tug of about 175 to 200 feet in length 50X1-HUM with an icebreaker bow.

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